

R E M A R K S

New claims 21-32 are pending in the present application; original claims 1-20 canceled.

The foregoing claim amendments do not introduce any new matter, and are not intended to limit, restrict or otherwise preclude applicant from asserting any subsequent patent rights under the judicially recognized doctrine of equivalents.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

New claims 21-32 are believed to be in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

New claims 21-32 are also believed to be non-obvious in view of the Reuyl, Schneider and Kunimatsu references cited by the Examiner.

The present invention, for example as set forth in new claim 21, relates to a motor vehicle electrical power system that can be used for powering an external electrical load. The system includes an internal combustion engine, a battery, an generator for generating AC electrical power when the engine is operated, a generator inverter for converting AC electrical power generated by the generator to DC electrical power, a traction motor coupled to said battery, and a traction inverter coupled to said battery for converting the stored DC electrical power to an AC power input for said electric traction motor. A switching device is provided for selectively diverting the AC electrical power input from the traction motor for application to the external electrical load.

Advantageously, the claimed system allows the motor vehicle to operate in a "generator" mode for powering external electrical loads. In accordance with another embodiment, as set forth in claims 29-32, the system can also be operated in a "charger" mode.

Although Reuyl discloses an integrated power system utilizing an automobile power system, Reuyl neither teaches or suggests all of the elements set forth in new claim 21. In particular, Reuyl does not disclose the use of both a generator and a traction motor, and a switching device for selectively diverting the AC electrical power input from the traction motor in order to power external loads. In addition, Reuyl fails to teach or suggest the structure set forth in new claim 29.

The secondary references likewise do not teach the claimed elements, or even those missing from the Reuyl reference. Thus, even if taken in combination with the secondary references, Reuyl fails to teach or even suggest all of the claimed elements.

Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 21-32 are not rendered obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Conclusions

The above-identified application is believed to be in condition for allowance in all respects, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If any further amendment is necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable condition, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned by fax or telephone at the numbers listed below.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit

Account 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1505.

Respectfully submitted,



Carlos L. Hanze
Registration No. 43,657
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date: 7/31/2002
Ford Global Technologies, Inc.
600 Parklane Towers East
Dearborn, Michigan
Phone: (313) 323-6733
Fax: (313) 322-7162